



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Union Public Utilities District Fuel Break		
PROJECT LOCATION	near Murphys T3N, R14E, Portions of Sections 5 and 6	COUNTY	Calaveras
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Adam Frese		
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is located near the town of Murphys in Calaveras County on property owned by the Union Public Utilities District. The parcel is approximately 31 acres in size. The property is adjacent to the Rocky Hills subdivision. The eastern portion of the property, adjacent to the subdivision, is the highest priority for fuel reduction treatment. The property would best be described as oak woodland. Interior live oak is the primary species present, with scattered California gray pine and Ponderosa pine. CAL FIRE hand crews will reduce surface fuels and ladder fuels by cutting, piling and burning, or chipping brush and understory trees. Fifty crew days have been allotted for fuel reduction work on the property. Residual trees will be spaced to approximately 10 feet between live crowns. Only trees 10-inches diameter at breast height (dbh) and less will be felled. Residual trees may be pruned up approximately 8 feet. Work will be conducted in fall, winter or spring when it is appropriate to burn piles.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 15304 Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits under portions of 15304- Minor alterations to land.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at the Tuolumne Calaveras Unit Headquarters in San Andreas.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING


William E. Snyder, Deputy Director
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

9/13/10
Date

